

Wasa AG, 64293 Darmstadt, Germany

A mix of production boards is always possible

Around the year 2000 the Marshalls Group in the United Kingdom began a strong relationship with Wasa AG in Germany and a 6 year programme to purchase a large number of Wasa Uniplast boards. Many of these boards are still in use in their plants today. There were many considerations in undertaking such a large investment but the primary features for Marshalls were the very good vibration transmission and the consistency of the vibration energy over many years, as plastic does not age.

One of the sites included was Marshalls' paving factory in Eaglescliffe, receiving around 4400 Wasa Uniplast production boards in 2001. The Plant Manager Edie Trainer is still very happy with the boards even after all these years as the boards are very easy to maintain and so the surface remains in good condition.

In 2007 Wasa launched the Wasa Uniplast Ultra board with great success, so in 2010 when additional boards at Eaglescliffe were required, Marshalls were confident in purchasing a further 1000 production boards from Wasa, and to mix the existing Uniplast with the new Uniplast Ultra boards.

This board type is still a fully plastic board but reinforced with glass micro fibres which makes the plastic stronger. The added advantage for the site in Eaglescliffe was that no profiles were necessary on these boards, which opened up the possibility for regrinding in the future, or even modification of the board size – this is a useful advantage for bigger groups since they can resize the boards and send them to other plants if appropriate.

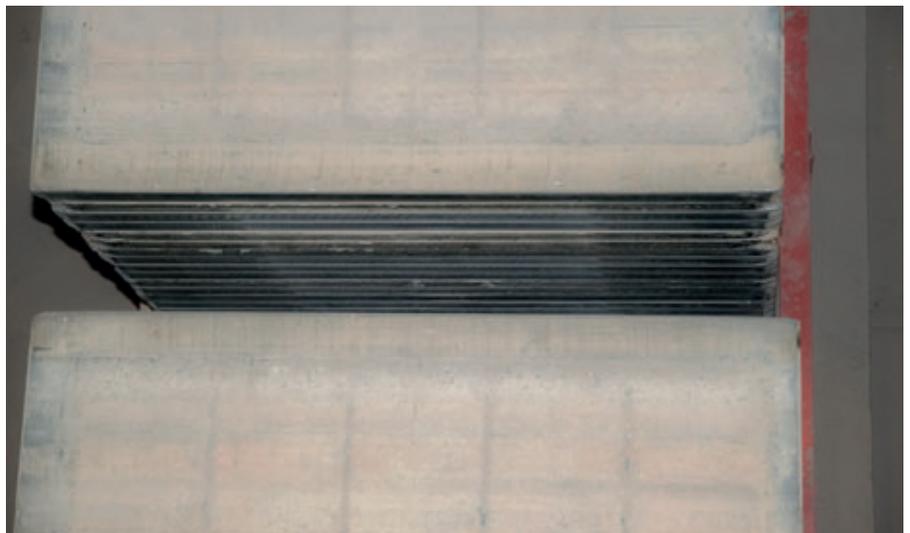
Eddie mentioned that during the buying process the Group was a little concerned that the characteristics of the Uniplast Ultra would be different to the old standard board with profiles. "Before we took the buying decision Wasa had reassured us that they could set the amount of fibres to meet our current production conditions, and so they did", said Eddie.

In many cases when additional boards are needed, block paving manufacturers are forced to buy full new sets in order to have the same vibration characteristics and consistent products to avoid complaints from their customers. When mixing old and new boards the product height would differ greatly between boards.

The Marshalls Group and specifically the plant in Eaglescliffe confirm that this is not



Marshalls started the production with Wasa boards in 2001 and they are still very happy with them even after all these years.



Even after ten years of use the surface is in great condition

an issue with the Uniplast board family. No matter if the plastic is 5, 10 or 15 years old a purchase of additional boards is always possible. For the plant manager it was the right decision and a good way forward saying, "Today we would make the same decision and we are still very happy with these boards and their performance".

Sönke Tunn the Sales manager of Wasa in Germany also confirmed that due to their modern production technology it is possible to finely control the amount of fibres inside the plastic mixture to always find the right board and to set the characteristics to the demand requested by the customer. "If clients are not 100% sure," says Sönke,



Wasa Uniplast Ultra - due to special glass fibres no profiles are necessary anymore



Mix of both Wasa Uniplast and Wasa Uniplast Ultra boards

“we can provide sample boards for testing before making the investment decision”.

Considering that the old Wasa Uniplast is already one of the oldest, most proven production board on the market worldwide, the fibre reinforced model Uniplast Ultra introduced in 2007 also shares this position now. To have the possibility to mix both board types assists the Marshalls Group to remain flexible, as many thousands of boards are running in their UK plants still today. ■

FURTHER INFORMATION



www.marshalls.co.uk



WASA AG
Europaplatz 4, 64293 Darmstadt, Germany
T +49 6151 7808500, F +49 6151 7808549
info@wasa-technologies.com, www.wasa-technologies.com